

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 /120 W

----- 052351

R 091110Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1079

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: JUSTICE PARTY WORRIED

1. OCT 2-4 POLOFF VISITED MANISA, USAK, AFYON, KUTAHYA AND BALIKESIR. THIS TELEGRAM REFLECTS CONVERSATIONS WITH GOVERNORS AND MAYORS OF THOSE PROVINCES. THE GOVERNORS, ALTHOUGH STUDIOUSLY NEUTRAL, WOULD BE MOST AT EASE WITH JP VICTORY. THREE MAYORS BELONG TO JP, ONE IS AN ERSTWHILE JP MEMBER NOW LISTED AS INDEPENDENT, AND THE OTHER INDEPENDENT. MOST IMPRESSIONS GAINED THEREFORE REFLECT JP VIEWPOINT.

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2. PERHAPS MOST DEFINITE IMPRESSION IS THAT JP IS AN UNEASY FRONTRUNNER. ITS MEMBERS ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE CAMPAIGN THE PARTY HAS MOUNTED. THEY ARE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THE EFFECT OF RPP'S EFFORTS AMONG RURAL VOTERS. THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE IS RAPIDLY

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INCREASING COST OF LIVING AND THIS ISSUE HURTING JP.

THERE IS ALSO CONCERN THAT THE NATIONS'S ECONOMIC SITUATION IS DETERIORATING AND THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE A VERY DIFFICULT TIME GOVERNING.

3. FOR THIS REASON THEY WANT TO WIND A SOLID MAJORITY, BUT THEY ARE NOT PREDICTING AN OVERWHELMING VICTORY. MOST FREQUENTLY HEARD PROJECTION WAS 240-250 JP DEPUTIES, 120 RPP, AND THE REMAINDER DIVIDED AMONG SMALLER PARTIES. NONE OF THE SMALLER PARTIES IS EXPECTED TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT SHOWING. PRESENT DEPUTY DISTRIBUTION IN FIVE PROVINCES IS 25 JP, 9 RPP, 2 DP, AND ONE RR. BASED ON CONVERSATIONS PROJECTION IS 23 JP, 9 RPP, ONE NSP, ONE TOSS-UP BETWEEN JP AND RPP (THREE SEATS LOST DUE TO POPULATION LOSSES).

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4. COMMENT: JP APPEARED TO BE RUNNING SCARED IN MOST OF AREA VISITED. DEMIREL'S LACKLUSTER CAMPAIGN IS A MAJOR FACTOR. ANOTHER IS APPARENT ABILITY OF ECEVIT TO GENERATE ENTHUSIASM AMONG RURAL VOTERS. WHILE PROJECTING NATIONAL TRENDS ON BASIS THIS SMALL SAMPLE NOT VERY PRODUCTIVE, IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT MANY JP PROFESSIONALS ARE SUFFICIENTLY WORRIED ABOUT ELECTION PROSPECTS IN THIS TRADITIONAL JP STRONGHOLD TO EXPRESS THOSE CONCERNS TO A VISITING U.S. OFFICIAL. SMITH

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